

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02
MCT-01 ACDA-07 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 LAB-04 SIL-01
OES-07 ARA-10 /115 W
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O R 161740Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1792
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PDEV PFOR PO XJ
SUBJECT: LISBON ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE

REF: LISBON 0688 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: THE FOUR-DAY LISBON ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE, A WORLD PEACE COUNCIL EVENT, KICKED OFF JUNE 16. CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS CLAIM THE PLANNED ATTENDANCE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 40 NATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS. THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, AS WELL AS PRESIDENT EANES AND THE THREE MAJOR DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, ARE HOLDING THEIR DISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE: THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID, RACISM, AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA OPENED FOR BUSINESS AFTERNOON JUNE 16 IN LISBON. CONFERENCE WILL END JUNE 19. SPONSORSHIP HONORS GO TO A COMPLEX GROUPING OF COMMUNIST-LINING AND LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS. INTERNATIONALLY, THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ORGANIZATIONAL ROLE. IN PORTUGAL, THE CONFERENCE HOSTS ARE AN AMALGAM OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH CLOSE TIES TO THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP), NOTABLY THE CGTP-INTERSINDICAL LABOR CONFEDERATION AND THE VARIOUS FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATIONS WITH THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES. (REFTEL).

2. ATTENDANCE: CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS CLAIM THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF FORTY NATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE. (AMONG THESE A 20-MAN U.S. DELEGATIONS.) HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATION IS EXPECTED FROM THOSE NATIONS -- ANGOLA, BOTSWANA, CAPE VERDE, AND SAO TOME, AT LAST COUNT -- WHOSE HEADS OF STATE HAVE ACCEPTED THE HONORIFIC POSITION OF CONFERENCE "PATRON." THE PARTICIPATION OF A HIGH-LEVEL UNITED NATIONS
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DELEGATION, AS WELL AS OF SUCH NOTABLES AS GUNNAR MYRDAL AND HORTENSIA ALLENDE, HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. AS YET, PRESENCE OF THESE DELEGATES HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.

3. COMMISSION:
THE CONFERENCE'S WORK WILL BE MAINLY

HANDLED IN FIVE COMMISSIONS WHOSE FUNCTIONS, AS DEFINED IN THE DRAFT PROGRAM OF THE LISBON APRIL 23-24 PREPARATORY MEETING, ARE AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE
(A) POLITICAL COMMISSION:
-- HISTORY, CHARACTER AND ACUTAL SITUATION OF THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE.
-- THE NEW CORRELATION OF FORCES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AFTER THE HISTORIC VICTORIES OF THE PEOPLES OF MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA.
-- COLLABORATION WITH THE RACIST AND COLONIALIST REGIMES IN VIOLATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS.

-- THE DAILY LIFE OF THE PEOPLE UNDER THE APARTHEID,
RACIST AND COLONIALIST REGIMES.
(B) LEGAL COMMISSION:
-- THE JURIDICAL SYSTEMS OF APARTHEID, RACISM, AND
COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
-- THE STATUS OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN
INTERNATIONAL LAW.
-- POLICE AND JURIDICAL REPRESSION: MASSACRES,
PRISONS, TORTURES, TRIALS, ETC.

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(C) ECONOMIC COMMISSION:

- THE ECONOMIC ROLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA IN THE STRATEGY OF MULTINATIONALS: DIRECT INVESTMENTS, CHEAP LABOR, STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS, ETC.
- THE UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL WEALTH (LAND, MEANS OF PRODUCTION).

(D) COMMISSION ON MILITARY COLLABORATION WITH THE RACIST REGIMES:

- MILITARY COLLABORATION WITH THE RACIST REGIMES.
- NUCLEAR COLLABORATION.
- MILITARY BUILD UP IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
- STRATEGIC PROJECTS OF THE RACIST REGIMES AND MILITARY ALLIANCES.

(E) COMMISSION ON ACTION AND SOLIDARITY:

- INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION OF THE RACIST REGIMES: THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN RESOLUTIONS.
- MOBILIZATION OF WORLD PUBLIC OPINION.
- SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.
- PLAN OF ACTION. END QUOTE.

4. CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: THE CONFERENCE'S SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) JUNE 16: OPENING SESSION; SPEECHES, INCLUDING THOSE BY SOUTH AFRICA'S ANC LEADER OLIVER TAMBO, SWAPO'S SAM NUJOMA, AND ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT HEAD JOSHUA NKOMO.

(B) JUNE 17: COMMISSION MEETINGS,

(C) JUNE 18: COMMISSION MEETINGS; PLENARY DISCUSSION OF ACTION AND FUTURE LIAISON.

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(D) JUNE 19: PLENARY SESSION, ADOPTION OF COMMISSION REPORTS, DECLARATION, APPEAL, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

5. DEMOCRATIC DISTANCING: THE PORTUGUESE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES (SOCIALISTS - PS; SOCIAL DEMOCRATS - PSD; AND CENTER DEMOCRATS - CDS), THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE PRESIDENT HAVE PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND THE CONFERENCE. DESPITE PARTICIPATION AT CONFERENCE BY SOME PS AND PSD MEMBERS, PARTY LEADERS BECAME AWARE OF THE CONFERENCE'S PROXIMITY TO SOVIET LINE AS CONFERENCE DATE APPROACHED AND QUIETLY TOLD MEMBERS TO STAY AWAY. PS INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY RUI MATEUS PASSED THE WORD TO HIS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL COLLEAGUES ASKING THEM NOT TO ATTEND. MATEUS SAID THIS WAS A CENTRAL FACTOR IN OLOF PALME'S DECISION TO STAY AWAY. IN JUNE 16 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, FOREIGN MINISTRY (MENESES DE RIBEIRO, AFRICA-ASIA DIVISION) STRESSED FONMIN TOTAL NON-INVOLVMENT WITH CONFERENCE.

6. ASSEMBLY MOTION: THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC PASSED A MOTION ON JUNE 15 PROTESTING "ALL FORMS OF APARTHEID, RACISM, COLONIALISM, AND IMPERIALISM THAT EXIST IN THE WORLD, IN PARTICULAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA." VOTE WAS ONE ABSTENTION SHORT OF UNANIMITY. THE MOTION REPLACED ONE PROPOSED PREVIOUS DAY BY PCP, WHICH DECLARED SUPPORT FOR ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE. PSD AND CDS DEPUTIES LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THEIR VOTE FOR APPROVED MOTION WAS OBTAINED BY CUTTING ALL FAVORABLE MENTION OF CONFERENCE AND BY THE INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE WHICH LENDS ITSELF TO CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA.
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